

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL GRENADA

UNCLAS STATE 144768

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OAS

SUBJECT: WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE ON OAS

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE OF WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 22, 1977 HEADLINED QUOTE FOR FIRST TIME, OAS UNIT
FAILS TO CONDEMN CUBANS ON RIGHTS UNQTE. BEGIN TEXT:

1. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FIVE YEARS, THE ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICAN STATES FAILED TODAY TO WIN ENOUGH VOTES TO
ADOPT A REPORT CONDEMNING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CUBA.
2. A U.S.-LED ATTEMPT TO PASS THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN
RIGHTS COMMISSION'S ANNUAL CUBA REPORT IN THE OAS
POLITICAL COMMITTEE ENDED IN A VOTE OF 12-0 -- ONE VOTE
SHORT OF THE ABSOLUTE MAJORITY NEEDED FOR PASSAGE.
THERE WERE 10 ABSTENTIONS AND THREE ABSENTS.
3. CONFERENCE SOURCES SAID THEY EXPECTED THE EXTRA VOTE
WOULD BE FOUND WHEN THE REPORT COMES UP FOR PLENARY DEBATE
IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEDNESDAY.

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4. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
BEGAN ISSUING ANNUAL REPORTS ON CUBA FIVE YEARS AGO THAT
PASSAGE HAS FAILED IN THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE.
5. JAMAICA SAID IT WOULD BE QTE ARROGANT UNQTE TO CON-
DEMN CUBA AFTER ITS 1964 EXPULSION FROM THE OAS. BARBADOS
CALLED IT QTE PROCEDURALLY ABSURD TO CONDEMN A COUNTRY

WHICH IS NOT HERE TO DEFEND ITSELF. UNQTE

6. U.S. DELEGATE ROBERT WHITE ARGUED THAT CUBA QTE SHOULD NOT BE EXCLUDED FROM SCRUTINY SIMPLY BECAUSE IT NO LONGER PARTICIPATES UNQTE IN THE OAS.

7. QTE THE REAL QUESTION IS WHETHER CUBA SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO REGAIN ITS STATURE IN THIS ORGANIZATION, NOT WHETHER IT SHOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM THE SCRUTINY OF THE COMMISSION, UNQTE WHITE SAID.

8. THE VOTING IN FAVOR OF CONDEMNING CUBA ON HUMAN RIGHTS WERE VENEZUELA, CHILE, PARAGUAY, THE UNITED STATES, GUATEMALA, ARGENTINA, COSTA RICA, BRAZIL, URUGUAY, EL SALVADOR, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND ECUADOR.

9. ABSTAINING WERE HAITI, PERU, PANAMA, JAMAICA, BARBADOS SURINAM, GRENADA, TRINIDAD, COLOMBIA AND MEXICO. ABSENT FROM THE VOTE WERE HONDURAS, NICARAGUA AND BOLIVIA.

10. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WAS MEETING TO DECIDE ON THE WORDING OF A GENERAL HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION. U.S. DIPLOMATS SAID THERE WAS QTE PROFOUND DISAGREEMENT UNQTE IN TRYING TO COMBINE FOUR RIVAL DRAFTS INTO A FINAL RESOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO ALL 24 OAS MEMBERS.
END TEXT. VANCE
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 22-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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HEADLINED QUOTE FOR FIRST TIME, OAS
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